

CAR-62

Poplar Grove (Rolling Acres)

Circa 1870 and earlier

Preston

Private

Where the present house stands is a site of an earlier dwelling. The present house was probably built in the second half of the 19th Century in a form typical of Eastern Shore farmhouses. The main part is five bays long and one room deep with a one story wing. Although all of the exterior walls are covered with asbestos shingles, the three walls of the dining room, adjacent the kitchen, are older brick walls, the remains of the earlier house.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

CAR-62
0600625604

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Poplar Grove

AND/OR COMMON

Rolling Acres

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

West side of Poplar Neck Road, 3.5 miles south of Marsh Creek Road

CITY, TOWN

Preston

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

First

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Caroline

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☐ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☒ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ COMMERCIAL☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ GOVERNMENT☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ MILITARY☐ MUSEUM☐ PARK☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ RELIGIOUS☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ OTHER:**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

A. T. Blades

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Preston

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21655

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Caroline County Courthouse

Liber #: 195

Folio #: 506

STREET & NUMBER

Market Street

CITY, TOWN

Denton

STATE

Maryland 21629

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CAR-62

CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT ☐ DETERIORATED
☒ GOOD ☐ RUINS
☐ FAIR ☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Poplar Grove is located along the Choptank River on a dirt lane running west from Poplar Neck Road approximately three and one-half miles south of Marsh Creek Road, south west of Preston, Caroline County. The present house was built in the late nineteenth century on the site of an earlier house.

The present house is five bays and two storys with a one bay one story kitchen wing on the east gable end. There is a central entrance and two over two pane sash windows in the other bays of both the north and south elevations. Brick chimney stacks are located interior end at both gables. The floor plan has a central stair hall and a single room to each side. The exterior of the house is covered with asbestos shingles. The three walls of the dining room, adjacent to the kitchen wing, are old brick walls that are part of the earlier house. However, little is known concerning the earlier house.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE**PERIOD**

☐ PREHISTORIC
☐ 1400-1499
☐ 1500-1599
☐ 1600-1699
☐ 1700-1799
☒ 1800-1899
☐ 1900-

☐ ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC
☐ ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC
☐ AGRICULTURE
☒ ARCHITECTURE
☐ ART
☐ COMMERCE
☐ COMMUNICATIONS

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

☐ COMMUNITY PLANNING
☐ CONSERVATION
☐ ECONOMICS
☐ EDUCATION
☐ ENGINEERING
☐ EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT
☐ INDUSTRY
☐ INVENTION

☐ LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
☐ LAW
☐ LITERATURE
☐ MILITARY
☐ MUSIC
☐ PHILOSOPHY
☐ POLITICS/GOVERNMENT

☐ RELIGION
☐ SCIENCE
☐ SCULPTURE
☐ SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
☐ THEATER
☐ TRANSPORTATION
☐ OTHER (SPECIFY)

SPECIFIC DATES**BUILDER/ARCHITECT****STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

Poplar Grove is a late nineteenth century house that incorporates portions of an earlier structure in its construction.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Michael Bourne, Architectural Consultant, & Joe Getty

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust

DATE

May, 1977

STREET & NUMBER

Shaw House, 21 State Circle

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Annapolis

STATE

Maryland 21401

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438



CAR 62

Poplar Gr



J. Getty

5/77

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM**

NR Eligible: yes ☐
no ☐

Property Name: Poplar Neck Corn House Inventory Number: CAR-62
Address: 3400 Poplar Neck Road City: Preston Zip Code: 21655
County: Caroline USGS Topographic Map: Preston Quad
Owner: David A. Harper Is the property being evaluated a district? ☐ yes
Tax Parcel Number: 37 Tax Map Number: 58 Tax Account ID Number: 04000927
Project: Tourist Information Points Agency: U.S.D.A.
Site visit by MHT Staff: ☐ no ☐ yes Name: _____ Date: _____
Is the property located within a historic district? ☐ yes ☒ no

If the property is within a district

District Inventory Number: _____

NR-listed district ☐ yes Eligible district ☐ yes District Name: _____

Preparer's Recommendation: Contributing resource ☐ yes ☐ no Non-contributing but eligible in another context ☐

If the property is not within a district (or the property is a district)

Preparer's Recommendation: Eligible ☐ yes ☒ no

Criteria: ☐ A ☒ B ☐ C ☐ D Considerations: ☐ A ☒ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G ☐ None

Documentation on the property/district is presented in: Caroline County Historical Society

Description of Property and Eligibility Determination: *(Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map and photo)*

The Corn House on Poplar Neck Farm was not described during the Survey of Caroline County in 1977. It has also been moved from its original position on the farm and it is planned that the building will be moved to a new location at the southeast corner of Poplar Neck Road and Marsh Creek Road near Preston. It was described by the undersigned in 2004 and a dendrochronological study was undertaken in 2008. The felling date of the timbers have been dated to 1820/1821.

The farm and accompanying corn house are important because of their association with the Underground Railroad movement in the mid-19th century. The farm is that on which Harriett Tubman's father lived and is mentioned with some frequency in her journals. Although her birthplace is known and recorded in Dorchester County, there are no buildings remaining from her period. The structures on Poplar Neck Farm are the only known structures remaining from Tubman's association with the property and from which she delivered her family to freedom.

If the structure were to remain on the farm, it would be eligible for the National Register, but the owner does not wish to have the farm designated and has in the past offered it to the Caroline County

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended ☐ Eligibility not recommended ☒

Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G ☐ None

Comments: Relocation destroys potential association with Harriet Tubman (Criterion B). Note: the structure was not evaluated under Criterion C for potential significance as an early dated example of its type.

Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

Date

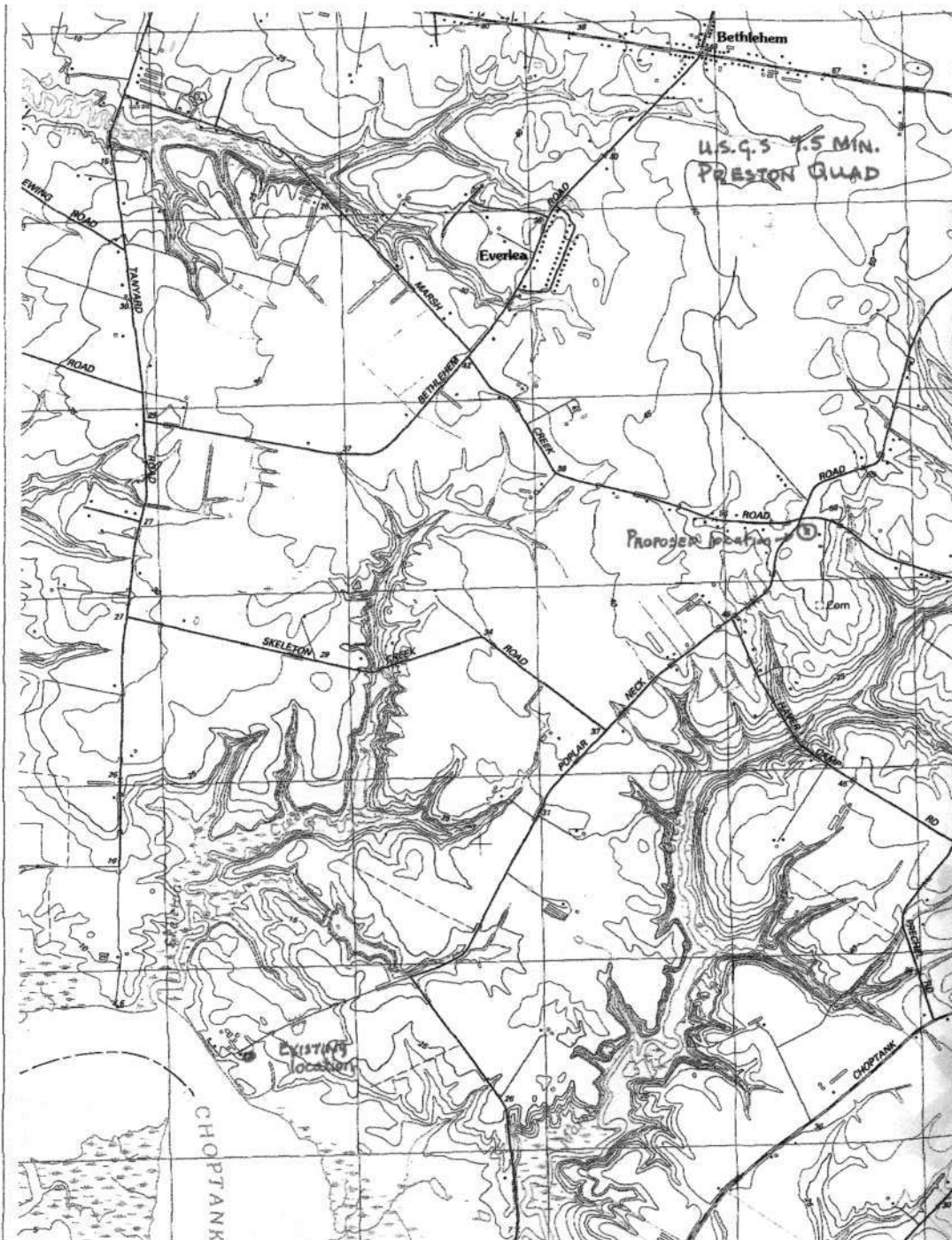
7/1/09

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
NR-ELIBILITY REVIEW FORM

Continuation Sheet No. 1

CAR-62

Historical Society. They would move it to the corner of Poplar Neck and Marsh Creek Roads about 2 miles north of the original site. In its proposed new site it would not be eligible for the National Register.



MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
NR-ELIBILITY REVIEW FORM

Continuation Sheet No. 2

CAR-62

**Poplar Neck Farm
Preston, Caroline County, Maryland**

A Description of the Historic Corn House



South of the farmhouse facing in a westerly direction is a frame corn house standing on concrete block piers. It measures 12'-9" wide by 23'-7" long with the principal door on the west gable. The door is hung on 24"-long wrought iron strap hinges with penny ends. There is a small door above and two high in the walls on each side, all hung on 20th century gate hinges. The doors as well as the vertical slats are all applied with wire nails. The interior of the structure, 8'-7", tall is divided into eight bays by 5" x 5" hewn oak posts that are mortised, tenoned and pinned into the underside of the sawn poplar plate. The sill is partly old and partly replaced.

The posts are notched to receive three hewn oak horizontal members, c. 3" x 5", that are half notched to fit over the posts to which the vertical slats are attached. 5" x 5" down braces on the east end are half notched over the first post and any horizontal members that are in the way of its path to the sill. The west braces have been partially replaced along with the majority of the west wall. Overhead, six hewn poplar tie beams, 5" x 7", are notched over the 5" x 8" wall plate. Their ends extend about a foot beyond the wall and are covered with a plain fascia but no soffit. The rafters are 2 1/2" x 4" sawn poplar that are mortise and tenoned at their apex and rest on a c. 3" x 5" false plate that is notched over the ends of the tie beams. A lath partition extending down the center of the crib is composed of three 2" x 3" horizontal members, one attached to the floor a second to the undersides of the tie beams and a third in the center to which vertical slats are attached with wire nails. The building appears to have been constructed in the mid-19th century with major remodeling in the 20th century along with a move from its original location where it would have rested on brick piers.

Michael Bourne
Restoration Consultant
24576 Langford Rd.
Chestertown, MD 21620
June 21, 2004

Prepared by: Michael Bourne

Date Prepared: 3 June 2009



Poplar Neck Corn House CAR-62

Caroline Co, MD

Michael Bourne

6/04

Digital - MOB

West elevation